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Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-09

ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00

FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

PM-03 SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01

FEA-01 IO-10 /135 W
---------- 048277
R 251540Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8876
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY HAGUE
AMEMBASSU JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY QUAYAQUIL
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
US MISSION OECD PARIS
US MISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
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UNCLAS BRASILIA 3178

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, BR
SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN PRESS REACTION TO PREPCON

1. SUMMARY- ALL MAJOR BRAZILIAN NEWSPAPERS CARRIED DAILY, BUT GENERALLY BRIEF AND FACTUAL, ARTICLES ON PREPCON. NOTABLE EXCEPTION WAS PRESTIGIOUS O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO WHICH HAD MOST EXTENSIVE COVERAGE AND COMMENTARY. THE OTHER MAJOR BRAZILIAN NEWSPAPER, O JORNAL DO BRASIL, ALSO CARRIED EXTENSIVE ACCOUNTS OF PREPCON. ACCOUNTS, HOWEVER, DID NOT ENCOMPASS EDITORIAL COMMENTS AND BASIC ITEMS WERE MUCH IN LINE WITH THOSE REPORTED BY O ESTADO. END SUMMARY.

2. COVERAGE OF FIRST DAY GENERALLY LIMITED TO BRIEF ACCOUNTS AND GUARDEDLY-OPTIMISTIC COMMENTS.
BE SECOND DAY HEADLINES OF "DISAGREEMENT WITH USA INCREASES AT PARIS MEETING" BEGAN APPEARING. O ESTADO, APRIL 8, SAID GROUP OF SEVEN AND GAINED "SYMBOLIC VICTORY" BY HAVING "ENERGY" DROPPED FROM PREPCON TITLE. ALSO NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT BRAZIL WAS ONLY ONE AMONG SEVEN STILL OPEN TO POSSIBILITY OF AGREEING TO LIMIT AGENDA TO ENERGY MATTERS. O ESTADO ALSO QUICK TO PREDICT EARLY THAT GISCARD'S INITIATIVE MIGHT WELL MEET WITH FAILURE IF BASIC QUESTION OF AGENDA NOT RESOLVED.

3. O ESTADO, APRIL 9, REPORTED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TWO SIDES HAD BECOME MORE CLEAR AND IRRECONCILABLE, BUT THERE STILL HOPE FOR COMPROMISE SOLUTION. POSITION OF INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS ALSO HURT BY DISCORED WITHIN EC DELEGATION. BRAZIL REMAINED "OPEN AND FLEXIBLE." O ESTADO, APRIL 10, REPORTED BRAZILIAN DELEGATION'S APPROVAL OF "HARSH" ALGERIAN CRITICISM OF US MOTION TO ALLOW IEA FULL PARTICIPATION IN PREPCON. HOWEVER, ALSO QUOTED CABRAL DE MELLO, HEAD OF BRAZILIAN DELEGATION, AS SAYING THAT ALGERIAN RHETORIC PRIMARILY FOR "INTERNAL CONSUMPTION." COMMENTARY EXPLAINED THAT, DESPITE ITS HEAVY CONSUMPTION OF AND DEPENDENCE ON OIL, BRAZIL MORE CONCERNED WITH WORLD-WIDE RECESSION AND CONSEQUENT CLOSING OF FOREIGN MARKETS. THUS ITS PROPER POSITION IS AMONG THE SEVEN.

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4. BY BEGINNING OF SECONF WEEK, MOST PAPERS PESSIMISTIC IN OUTLOOK. BRAZIL WAS PORTRAYED AS CLEARLY ALIGNED WITH SEVEN WHOSE THREE POINT COMPROMISE PLAN LAUDED AS ATTEMPT TO END IMPASSE (JORNAL DO BRASIL, APRIL 14). BUSINESS REVIEW, DIARIO COMERCIO E INDUSTRIA, APRIL 15, REPORTED FAILURE OF PREPCON IMMINENT, CITING US INTRANSIGENCE ON AGENDA QUESTION AS MAIN REASON.

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5. REPORTING FAILURE OF MEETING, O ESTADO, APRIL 16, QUOTED CABRAL DE MELLO --"THE POSITIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS, ESPECIALLY THE US, WERE NOT MATURE ENOUGH TO EFFECT AN AGREEMENT AT THE PREPCON." CABRAL DE MELLO REPORTEDLY SAID OTHER MAJOR FAULT WAS LACK OF SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION BEFOREHAND ON POSITIONS TO BE TAKEN AND INTERESTS DEFENDED AT MEETING. HE REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT GOB SOLIDARITY WITH SEVEN WAS A "NATURAL CONSEQUENCE" OF CURRENT BRAZILIAN POLICY AND WAS REPRESENTATIVE OF UNITY WITHIN LDC CAMP AS A WHOLE. O ESTADO QUOTED CABRAL DE MELLO AS STATING THAT THROUGHOUT MEETING POSITION OF BRAZILIAN DELEGATION HAD BEEN ONE OF "RESPONSIBLE PRAGMATISM." EDITORIAL CRITICIZED OBSTINACY OF DC DELEGATIONS WHO "KNEW WELL IN ADVANCE THAT THE SEVEN WOULD SEEK TO INTRODUCE ISSUES OF RAW MATERIALS AND RESTRUCTURING OF WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER INTO AGENDA."

6. O ESTADO POST MORTEM COMMENTARY ON APRIL 17 TITLED "GISCARD, THE BIGGEST FAILURE IN PARIS" SAYS FRENCH PRESIDENT NEVER ANTICIPATED SEVEN WOULD PRESENT UNIFIED FRONT NOR THAT ANY OF THREE DC GROUPS WOULD REMAIN FIRM ON LIMITING AGENDA. BOTH GISCARD'S PRESTIGE AND LDC/DC NEGOTIATIONS CONSEQUENTLY SUFFERED SERIOUS SETBACK. ARTICLE SAID RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREPCON FAILURE MUST ULTIMATELY BE SHARED BY ALL PARTICIPANTS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, PRESS COMMENTS, MEETINGS, PLANNING MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRASIL03178
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750146-0904
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750414/aaaaamkt.tel
Line Count: 140
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <10 FEB 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRAZILIAN PRESS REACTION TO PREPCON
TAGS: ENRG, BR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006